

2. (Amended) Method for the reduction of the amount of trisulfides in the production of recombinant peptides, [characterized by the addition of] comprising fermenting cells to produce recombinant peptides, wherein a metal salt is added during or after fermentation.

3. (Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein [any of claims 1 to 2 in which] the addition is performed directly after fermentation.

5. (Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein [any of claims 1 to 4 in which] pH is equal to or lower than pH 7.

6. (Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein [any of claims 1 to 5 in which] the metal salt [preferably] is potassium or sodium salt.

Claim 7, line 1, delete "preferably".

8. (Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein [any of claims 1 to 7 in which] the peptide [preferably] is growth hormone [and more preferably human growth hormone].

Please ~~add~~ the following claims ~~11~~ 19:

--11. (NEW) Method according to claim 1, wherein the metal salt is an alkali metal salt or an alkali earth metal salt.--

--12. (NEW) Method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide is human growth hormone.--

--13. (NEW) Method according to claim 2, wherein the addition is performed directly after fermentation.--

--14. (NEW) Method according to claim 2, wherein the metal salt is an alkali metal salt or an alkali earth metal salt.--

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contd.
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--15. (NEW) Method according to claim 2, wherein pH is equal to or lower than pH 7.--

--16. (NEW) Method according to claim 2, wherein the metal salt is potassium or sodium salt.--

--17. (NEW) Method according to claim 16 in which the salt is potassium- or sodium phosphate or acetate.--

--18. (NEW) Method according to claim 2, wherein the peptide is growth hormone.--

--19. (NEW) Method according to claim 2, wherein the peptide is human growth hormone.--
